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Vacation on the
White Mountain
National Forest

How Campers Can Help Protect the National Forest

First of all, obtain your camp-fire permit from the Forest Supervisor, Gorham, N. H., or from any Forest officer; then observe the following rules:

Build your camp fire near water, never against a log or tree.

Be sure it is out before you leave it.

When you throw away lighted matches, cigars, cigarettes, or pipe heels, **STEP ON THEM.**

Dead and down trees, alder, pin cherry, striped and moose maple, may be used for fuel.

LEAVE YOUR CAMP GROUNDS NEAT.

THINK OF THE NEXT FELLOW.

Bury your tin cans and burn garbage and papers—don't throw them in the streams.

If you discover a fire and can not put it out, notify the nearest Forest officer or telephone the Forest Supervisor, Gorham, N. H. District rangers are located at Gorham, Woodstock, Bartlett, and Pierce Bridge, N. H.

Vacation on the White Mountain National Forest



THE cloud-piercing peaks, the lakes and streams and waterfalls, the wind-swept ridges, and the deep woods trails make the White Mountain National Forest a land of heart's desire to the lover of the outdoors. In summer the hiker and mountain climber, the camper and fisherman may take his pick of trail and cliff, camp ground and trout stream; and the camera hunter may shoot scenes of beauty of every variety from peaceful valley to granite peak. Even the motorist will find convenient camping places and vantage points with a lookout over wild forest and mountain scenery.

And when the snows block up trail and pass the devotee of winter sports will find on the Forest congenial spirits ready to face the challenging winds that sweep over the great white hills. Snow-shoeing along the ridges reveals a world almost magical in its white and sparkling beauty where the granite summits break forth from the midst of snow-powdered evergreens and the drifts are piled high on the lee slopes or spread smooth and level over the depressions, and the winter carnival is now a regular event in the region, with all the thrills of ski jump and toboggan slide.



Snowshoes or skis are essential if you hit the trails in winter



The Wonalancet dog team at the Gorham winter carnival

In the enjoyment of all these advantages the visitor has the satisfaction of knowing that he is in a sense enjoying his own; for every citizen has a direct interest in the National Forests. They are administered by the Forest Service for his welfare; he is free to enjoy himself on them in his own way; and there are no restrictions on his movements or his pleasure beyond the requirement that he shall do nothing to injure the beauty or the usefulness of the Forest.

White Mountain Trails

Roads and trails make the White Mountain National Forest accessible to all, and guideposts for the benefit of the traveler are being set up as rapidly as possible. No place in the East offers better facilities for mountain climbing than the rugged slopes of the Presidential Range. Since 1876 the Appalachian Mountain Club, an organization founded for promoting outdoor recreation in the mountain regions, has been active in the White Mountains, and has constructed many trails which now fall within the boundaries of the White Mountain National Forest. The Forest Service is building new trails for fire protection which open to the traveler in the mountains many scenic attractions formerly known only to the lumbermen and the Forest ranger.

Many guidebooks and maps are now published which describe the tramping possibilities in the White Mountain region. A "Trail Map of New England," arranged by the New England Trail Conference, gives complete information regarding these publications, and can be obtained from the Appalachian Mountain Club, 1050 Tremont Building, Boston, Mass., or will be mailed by the club upon the receipt of 2 cents postage. A map



Mount Madison, Mount Quincy Adams, Mount Adams, and King's Ravine

of the White Mountain National Forest, showing all trails in the White Mountain region, is published by the Forest Service, and will be mailed free upon application to the Forest Supervisor, Gorham, N. H.

Scenic Attractions

The White Mountain region is filled with many natural wonders, and the panoramas which present themselves from the various vantage points of the mountains are unlimited. From the summit of Mount Washington the radius of view extends for more than a hundred miles in all directions, and scattered within the range of vision are 23 other peaks whose elevations exceed 4,000 feet. The most impressive wonders are the Notches, four of which are located within the boundaries of the White Mountain National Forest.

In Franconia Notch is that great natural curiosity, the "Old Man of the Mountains." Here also is the "Flume," a great crevice in solid rock, 900 feet long and from 60 to 70 feet deep. Equally interesting are the "Pool" and "Basin," both filled with crystal water and surrounded with queer rock formations.

In Pinkham Notch are many beautiful waterfalls; the picturesque "Glen Ellis" and the "Crystal Cascades" are both located in this Notch and are famed for their beauty.

Carter Notch, with its twin lakes surrounded by high cliffs and alpine vegetation, now contains a stone hut where the mountain trapper can find food and shelter after a long tramp through the National Forest.

Crawford Notch, which was named after one of the noted pioneer families of the region, is a New Hampshire State Reservation, but is nearly surrounded by the National

*Leaving the
Profile House
for a 10-day
hike through
the White Mountain
National Forest*



*After a bear
hunt in
Jefferson Notch*

Forest. The west gate to Crawford Notch is one of the scenic attractions of the White Mountain region.

Located at North Woodstock, adjacent to the National Forest boundary, is the famous Lost River, another curiosity of the Franconia Mountain region. In 1912 the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests opened this wonderful section of the Forest by constructing bridges, ladders, and trails through a series of glacial caverns.

The Lakes of the Clouds, located 5,000 feet above the sea, Echo and Profile Lakes in Franconia, and Echo Lake, with White Horse Ledge in Conway, are all landmarks of beauty and are visited by hundreds of tourists every year.

Tuckerman's Ravine, with its Snow Arch, King's Ravine, the Castellated Ridge, and the Giant Stairs are all geological formations of interest, and are accessible by scenic trails through the Forest.

Fishing and Hunting

The fish and game laws applying in the White Mountain National Forest are those enacted by the State legislatures of Maine and New Hampshire. The Fish and Game Commissioners at Augusta, Me., or at Concord, N. H., will furnish tourists with the laws that govern fishing and hunting in their respective States.

Within the boundaries of the Forest are many ponds and mountain streams with good fishing. The Forest Service has cooperated with the States and towns in keeping the best fishing waters well stocked with speckled trout, and the sportsmen are asked to cooperate in observing the State laws. Visitors wishing to hunt and fish should first obtain

*In the heart of
the woods*



*Roadside
camp grounds
with stone
fireplace,
wood, and
water. Copp
Springs*

the license which is required by law, and then acquaint themselves with the open seasons on fish, birds, and game. The whitetail or Virginia deer and certain species of predatory animals are the only large game.

Camping Grounds

On the Glen road, 6 miles from Gorham, N. H., the Forest Service has opened a public camp ground for the automobile tourist, known as the "Copp Spring Camp Ground." Here the camper will have plenty of room to pitch his temporary home, and he will find a large stone fireplace upon which to cook his meals. Near the highway is the old "Copp Spring," which has been stoned up and surrounded with stepping stones. Other conveniences arranged for the camper make this an ideal camping place for the tourist who wishes to spend his vacation in the open. There are also attractive camping grounds at the head of the Swift River Valley, the "Brickett Place" at North Chatham, at Gale River, and near the United States Ranger Station at the head of Wild River. Many other camping places are accessible to the trampler who wishes to take his pack and explore the unlimited wonders hidden in the deep forests that cover the mountain ranges.

The opportunities for obtaining lands for permanent camp and cottage sites are so favorable just outside the National Forest boundaries that the Forest Service does not issue permits for such camps for individual use, except in the most exceptional cases and



The Presidential Range from Randolph Hill

under special conditions. The National Forests were created for the benefit of the public; therefore, it is not good policy to allow private individuals to place "No Trespassing" signs upon public lands. The growing demands for sites upon which to camp temporarily with tents, for picnic grounds, and for public stopping places where one can cook a meal and find a night's shelter are so great that it has been found best to keep the Forest open and unoccupied, so that anyone traveling through it may feel free to pitch his tent or picnic when and where he pleases. Along most of the streams which head in the White Mountain National Forest are camping places, together with plenty of dry wood and pure spring water.



Mount Adams and Mount Madison from Carter Notch trail

Accommodations for Visitors

Many visitors to the White Mountain National Forest now make their headquarters at one of the public camp grounds located within the Forest, and spend their whole vacations in the open. Others locate at one of the many summer hotels near by and take daily trips into the Forest.

Located along many of the trails are open shelters which have been constructed by the Appalachian Mountain Club for the use of the public. On Mount Madison, at the Lakes of the Clouds, and at Carter Notch are stone huts, with keepers, where the trumper can find food and shelter at a reasonable charge. For the inexperienced traveler who has never



Camp of the Appalachian Mountain Club on Swift River

roughed it, an up-to-date hotel has been built on the summit of Mount Washington, and here the tenderfoot can find all the comforts of home on the "Top of New England."

Surrounding the White Mountain National Forest are the highest types of vacation resorts, each with its community of cottages, hotels, and clubs. The annual golf and tennis tournaments bring many noted experts to this region, and many of the hotels cater especially to the people who enjoy these sports.

In all towns located within the White Mountain region there are good hotel accommodations for the tourists. In the larger towns supplies for tourists and trampers can be purchased, and many camping parties do not complete their outfit until arriving in the mountain region.

Lines of Travel

The White Mountain National Forest, with its three lines of railroads and three trunk lines of State highways, is the most accessible vacation ground in New England. The Boston & Maine Railroad issues several booklets which describe the attractive vacation places in the region. These publications can be obtained by writing the Passenger Traffic Department, 15 North Station, Boston, Mass.

The Maine Central Railroad also publishes several booklets which will help you plan your vacation. These can be obtained from the Passenger Traffic Department, Maine Central Railroad, Portland, Me.

Other booklets describing the beauties of the White Mountain region are issued by the Grand Trunk Railroad and can be obtained from the District Passenger Agent, Montreal, Province of Quebec.



Hikers pause to view Mount Resolution

The New Hampshire Hotel Association issues a folder containing a map of New Hampshire which shows the trunk-line roads (State highways). This folder describes the color schemes and markings along the trunk lines, and gives a list of the principal hotels located along the State highways. This folder and other information regarding the White Mountain region can be obtained from J. Ben Hart, Secretary, New Hampshire Hotel Association, 875 Elm Street, Manchester, N. H. The New Hampshire State Highway Department issues a map showing the various State aid roads and the trunk lines. This map can be obtained from the State Highway Department, Concord, N. H.

History

If we were to plan a visit to some foreign country our first thought would be "What do we want to see?" and our second "How can we see it?" A map of the country would serve as a guide for our journey, but a history would furnish us with facts regarding its early existence and tell of the things we should see to make our visit worth while.

The first known white man to explore the White Mountains was Darby Field, who made his first visit to the region in June, 1642. After Darby Field's discovery of the great mountains, many other early settlers along the seacoast hurried to the "Christall Hills" in hopes of finding precious stones or rare metals upon the lofty peaks. In 1819 Abel Crawford, with his son Ethan Allen Crawford, blazed the first trail through to the summit of Mount Washington. In 1820 both Crawfords, accompanied by Philip Carrigain and several other gentlemen from Lancaster, made a trip to the top of the Great Range



The Presidential Range from the Pond of Safety

and named the following peaks of the Presidential Range: Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Franklin, and Pleasant.

In Belknap's History of New Hampshire, published in 1792, we read that "from the earliest settlement of the country, the White Mountains have attracted the attention of all sorts of persons." Belknap's early description of the White Mountains is as follows:

Some writers, who have attempted to give an account of these mountains, have ascribed the whiteness of them to shining rocks, or a kind of white moss; and the highest summit has been deemed inaccessible, on account of the extreme cold which threatens to freeze the traveler in the midst of summer.

The lower part of the mountain is shaded by a thick growth of spruce and fir. The surface is composed of rocks covered with very long green moss which extends from one rock to another, and is in many places so thick and strong as to bear a man's weight. This immense bed of moss serves as a sponge to retain the moisture brought by the clouds and vapors which are frequently rising and gathering round the mountains; the thick growth of wood prevents the rays of the sun from penetrating to exhale it; so that there is a constant supply of water deposited in the crevices of the rocks and issuing in the form of springs from every part of the mountain.

Nature has formed such a connection between mountains and streams that in describing one we are unavoidably led to speak of the other.

New Hampshire is so situated that five of the largest rivers in New England either take their rise within its limits or receive much of their water from its mountains. These are the Connecticut, Amari-scoggin, Saco, Merrimack, and Pascataqua.

Notwithstanding the gloomy appearance of an American forest, yet a contemplative mind may find in it many subjects of entertainment. The most obvious remark is the silence which reigns through it. In a calm day no sound is heard but that of running water, or perhaps the chirping of a squirrel or the squalling of a jay. Singing birds do not frequent the thick woods; but in every opening made by the hand of cultivation their melody is delightful.



A scene in the Pinkham Notch

Preserving the Forests

From Belknap's historical description we note that even the earliest settlers were aware of the fact that the forest cover of the watersheds controlled the streamflow of New England's greatest rivers. This fact later generations lost sight of until the spring floods of recent years caused investigations to be made, and it was proved that the extensive logging operations in the White Mountain region would in time deprive New England of her waterpower development.

The Weeks law, which was passed by Congress and signed by President Taft on March 1, 1911, enabled the United States to acquire lands in the White Mountain region for the protection of the watersheds of New England's greatest rivers. Thus the future protection of her great rivers is assured, but the damage which has already been done by the lumbermen is found on every mountainside, and the greatest problem of the Forest Service to-day is to protect the new growth of timber and restore the forests to their former appearance and usefulness.

Indians

The three Indian tribes which inhabited the White Mountain region upon the arrival of the white man were the Sokokis, located upon the Saco; the Anasagunticooks, on the Androscoggin; and the Penacooks on the Merrimack. The Sokokis were divided into several subtribes or branches, the Ossipees and the Pequawkets being the most prominent in the history of the White Mountain region. Mount Passaconaway, Mount Kancamacus, and Mount Chocorua, all named after the early Indian chiefs, recall the legends and history of the White Mountain region before the coming of the white man.



Through the alders to the foot of the mountain

Remember

That the National Forests of the United States contain thousands of acres of valuable timber needed for the development of the country and for the conservation of its natural resources. Their primary purpose is to provide a self-renewing timber supply and regulated streamflow.

Camping, hunting, fishing, and trapping within the Forest are open to all, and the great areas of natural scenic attractions bring thousands of mountain climbers to the White Mountain National Forest yearly.

The public enjoyment of all kinds of outdoor recreation is recognized as one of the most important uses of the Forest, and the administrative program of the Forest Service includes extensive recreation plans for the White Mountain National Forest.

Damage to the National Forests means loss to you as well as to every other citizen of the United States.

BE CAREFUL WITH FIRE.
DON'T POLLUTE THE STREAMS.
LEAVE YOUR CAMP SITE CLEAN.
BURY OR BURN ALL REFUSE.

Keep in touch with the Forest Rangers. They are all experienced woodsmen and are ever ready to assist you in any way they can. The National Forests belong to you, and you are always welcome.





